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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2004

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL  
Barzani Threatens - Milliyet (1/19)  
Erdogan Calls Arab World to Reform - Sabah (1/19)  
Mrs. Erdogan Accompanies PM to US - Sabah (1/19)  
Erdogan Issues a "Reform" Message in Jeddah - Hurriyet (1/19)  
Barzani Warns US on Kirkuk - Hurriyet (1/19)  
Pakistan President Musarraf in Ankara - Sabah  
Clinton Gives Democracy Lesson in Jeddah - Milliyet  
Erdogan: "We Must Renew Ourselves" - Turkiye

OPINION MAKERS

Critical Week for Cyprus - Radikal  
Cyprus Threat from Athens - Cumhuriyet  
Kirkuk Ultimatum from Barzani - Cumhuriyet

BRIEFING

Iraq: "Cumhuriyet" reports that KDP leader Barzani's threats to US over Kirkuk are becoming harsher. Barzani wants the control of Kirkuk to be given to his group and warns that if the Iraqi Interim Government does not give the control to them by March 1, they'll solve the issue themselves. "Zaman" reports that during his meeting with Bush, PM Erdogan will stress Turkish sensitivity on ethnic-based federation attempts in Iraq. Erdogan will also highlight the Turkish worries over the conflict between Washington rhetoric and their action in Iraq on the issue of equal group representation there. "Radikal" notes that Erdogan will stress that the US support for the Kurds fuels the ethnic conflict there and the US is responsible for the chaos in Iraq. "Cumhuriyet" notes that not only Turkey and the regional countries but the UN also is disturbed by the developments in Iraq.

Cyprus: "Hurriyet" reports that PM Erdogan will meet with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan for 45 minutes on January 24 at the World Economic Forum in Davos. In the meeting Erdogan will convey to Annan the new Cyprus positions of Ankara as well as the views of TRNC president Denktas and the new PM Talat. "Zaman" highlights Turkish FM Abdullah Gul's comments saying that the EU became aware of Turkey's importance after the September 11 attacks and the Iraqi war. However, Greek PM Simitis responded to this statement saying that Turkey's EU entry would not be possible without a settlement in Cyprus.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Iraq; Jeddah Economic Forum

"The US makes mistake, too"  
Haluk Ulman argued in the economic-politic Dunya (1/20):  
"Current developments in Iraq demonstrate the fallacy of the preconceived notion that a superpower like the US will never be mistaken. In fact, as the history reminds us in both the Vietnam and Somalia examples, the US has made plenty of mistakes. The Iraq issue has turned into a quagmire for the US. The invasion of Iraq was concluded quickly, yet the rest remains a puzzle because of US miscalculations. . The Bush administration is now planning to leave Iraq, but it will not be easy given the risks. The US will lose its

credibility if it leaves Iraq without establishing a functioning regime. This could even lead to a civil war. On the other hand, staying in Iraq might bring the US higher casualties due to the growing resistance. It is amazing to see the US superpower is right in the middle of this dilemma."

"Messages for Change"

Sami Kohen noted in the mass appeal Milliyet (1/20): "The statement by Turkish PM Erdogan at the Jeddah Economic Forum contains some very important messages. The most important message is his call for the Islamic world to participate in change. The world is divided into two, as Erdogan put it: those who are willing to change, and those who become spectators to change. Turkey has become part of the former, and Erdogan urged the latter to take urgent action to reform. . Turkish officials have given similar messages to the Islamic world in other platforms as well, such as in Iran and Malaysia. Erdogan's appeal at the Jeddah forum again shows that Turkey is capable of presenting itself as a model to the Islamic world. Turkey can also play a bridge role between the Western world and the Islamic world, a fact that is as important as Turkey's geo-strategic significance."

EDELMAN